

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application, of which claims 9, 11, and 12 have been withdrawn. In the Office Action of May 17, 2006, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). Additionally, claims 1-8 and 10 were objected to because the term "fuse contact" included in claims 1, 7, and 9 was believed to not be defined in the specification. Furthermore, the Office Action rejected claims 1-2 and 5-7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruchman (U.S. Patent No. 6,717,505) in view of Linney (GB 2,186,447). Finally, claims 3-4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruchman in view of Linney and in further view of Immel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,685,049).

Regarding the objection to the drawings because they failed to show #10, as described in the specification, Applicant has included hereafter a replacement sheet rectifying this typographical error. In particular, as described in the specification, Fig. 1 has been amended to indicate item "10". No new matter has been added.

Regarding the objections to the drawings for not showing a "second support" (claim 3) or a "fuse contact" (claims 1, 7, and 9), in light of the amendments presented above, Applicant believes these objections to be moot. Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully refers to ¶ [0024] of the present application that describes both a support extending from the base to support a circuit element such as a resistor and also describes fuse clips 26, 27 that, as described, act as contacts to complete an electrical circuit with a fuse held by the fuse clips 26, 27. For at least these reasons, Applicant believes that these terms, though no longer recited in the claims, are fully described in the specification.

With respect to the objection to claims 1-9 and 10, for the reasons stated above (i.e. the amendments to the claims render the objections moot and/or the objected to elements are described in the specification), Applicant believes the objections have been overcome.

With respect to the rejections under §103(a), Applicant has canceled claims 1-12 and hereby presents new claims 13-24. These new claims include a variety

of elements that are neither taught nor suggested by the art of record. For example, claim 13 calls for a very specific arrangement of elements of the fuse cartridge assembly, such as the relationship of the fuse status indicator assembly to surrounding elements. In particular, claim 13 calls for the fuse status indicator assembly to include a base that supports a fuse status indicator having at least one electrical contact extending therefrom. Additionally, claim 13 calls for "at least one retainer member extending from the base to **removeably engage** the retainer formed in the housing when the base is positioned in the opening formed in the housing." (Emphasis added). Accordingly, claim 13 states that this arrangement of components serves to "secure the at least one electrical contact in electrical connection with at least one of the at least two contacts so that the fuse status indicator adjusts a level of illumination generated in response to a blown status of the fuse."

Nowhere does the art of record teach or suggest a fuse status indicator assembly that is removeably engaged with a housing holding a fuse. Rather, while Bruchmann at least teaches a fuse status indicator, it is clear that the fuse status indicator 40 and LED 41 are integrated within the circuit protection unit having the fuse.

Paragraph [0006] of the present application explains that the claimed invention is preferable over a fixed system such as in Bruchmann. In particular, paragraph [0006] explains that the removable carrier of the present invention allows the fuse status indicator to be protectively encased by the same housing that is designed to protect and house the fuse while still allowing access to the fuse status indicator in the event that it has burned out and must be replaced. Such a system is neither taught nor suggested by the art of record.

For at least these reasons, claim 13 is patentably distinct from the art of record. Accordingly, claims 14-24 are in condition for allowance at least pursuant to the chain of dependency. In light of the foregoing, Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance and; thus, a timely Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

As always, the Examiner is invited to call the Undersigned at the number appearing below if such would help advance the prosecution of the application.

Response to May 17, 2006 Office Action
Application Serial No. 10/812,705

Though no fees are believed due, should any fees be due as a result of this or any other communication, authorization is given to charge Quarles & Brady Deposit Account No. 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,
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